

QUEENSFERRY AND DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL
Transport Report
for Council Meeting on Monday 28 April 2014

Highlights from the Transport Sub-Committee over the past month are listed below

1. **Network Rail Event** – On Friday 28 March I attended an information event for community representatives hosted by Network Rail. In addition to hearing about Forth Bridge issues, on which we already receive quite comprehensive updates, the event gave an opportunity to discuss subjects like track maintenance, line closure arrangements, safety and EGIP. Although the Dalmeny Chord is not going ahead in the near future, construction of a new station at Gogar, served by the Fife Circle line alone is about to begin. Completion is expected in 2016. South Gyle Station will then be run down and passengers will be expected to walk or use the tram for onward travel from Gogar.
2. **Forth Replacement Crossing** – BRIGS have asked for clarification on the course of roads and paths around the south end of the new bridge. These were discussed in principle at the time of the Bill a few years ago, but with construction now underway, more detailed solutions and appropriate timescales may be emerging. A meeting with CEC will be arranged.
3. **Corus Site** – On Monday 14 April I attended a meeting with FETA and Transport Scotland reps to discuss their views on the proposals for a housing development on the former hotel site. There is strong resistance amongst both bodies to the use of Ferrymuir Gait for any access purpose.
4. **Almond Transport Forum** – On Tuesday 15 April I attended the first Almond Transport Forum meeting, and I was elected chair. Although open to the whole neighbourhood partnership, only Queensferry and Kirkliston Community Councils were represented. We decided the main common interest across Almond was on public transport matters and this would be the forum's focus for the time being. Minutes will be circulated in due course but the main headlines affecting Queensferry were: meeting with Stagecoach to be arranged for early May regarding 40/A route; loss of 43 bus to Bo'ness will be replaced by a car which will only be available to West Lothian residents (not Edinburgh or Falkirk); loss of 43 to Kirkliston/Uphall may be replaced by additional 7 journeys (although KCC reported that First may consider operating additional 651 journeys commercially); expect a report on the new 63 tender at the end of May; active travel plan for Dalmeny Station proposed.
5. **Traffic Delays** – On Tuesday 15 April, a northbound lane closure on the Forth Road Bridge between 12 noon and 9 pm led to long delays for traffic using roads in Queensferry. QDCC have explored various mitigations in the past but it is important to remember that unless some roads in Queensferry are permanently closed, this situation is almost inevitable if there are bridge restrictions on a weekday.

Grant Sangster
Transport Sub-Committee Convenor
25 April 2014